

Appl. No.: 09/856,082  
Grp./A.U. 1712

Remarks:

Favorable consideration and allowance of the instant application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 11-13 and 15-23 are pending in this application.

Claim 14 has been cancelled and claim 11, amended. No new matter is thought to be introduced thereby.

The Examiner's rejections, as they pertain to the patentability of the claims, are respectfully traversed.

Claims 11-13, 15, 16 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Carney et al (US 4,409,108). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The subject matter of claim 14, which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable, has been incorporated into claim 11. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carney (US 4,409,108). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The subject matter of claim 14, which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable, has been incorporated into claim 11. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the foregoing reply is completely responsive under 37 CFR 1.111 and that all grounds for rejection are completely avoided and/or overcome. A Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly requested.

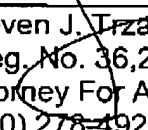
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The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney if any further questions remain which can be resolved by a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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